



ACTION
— New
tales
starting
in time
for the
holidays.

'Aladdin' debuts in comics

The magic of Walt Disney's "Aladdin" now comes to the Comics, Etc. pages of The Patriot and The Evening News.

Beginning today and appearing every Monday through Saturday until Christmas is a new adventure starring Aladdin, Jasmine and that wise-cracking Genie from the magic lamp.

The three friends embark on a

scheme in the Sultan's palace to bring toys to the poor children of Agrabah.

The Disney studio's version of the centuries-old story of "Aladdin," released last year, told the tale of how a young man was granted three wishes after freeing a Genie from his magic lamp.

He won the girl of his dreams with the help of his new friend and a wonderful flying carpet.

Disney's "Aladdin" went on to become the most successful animated film of all time.

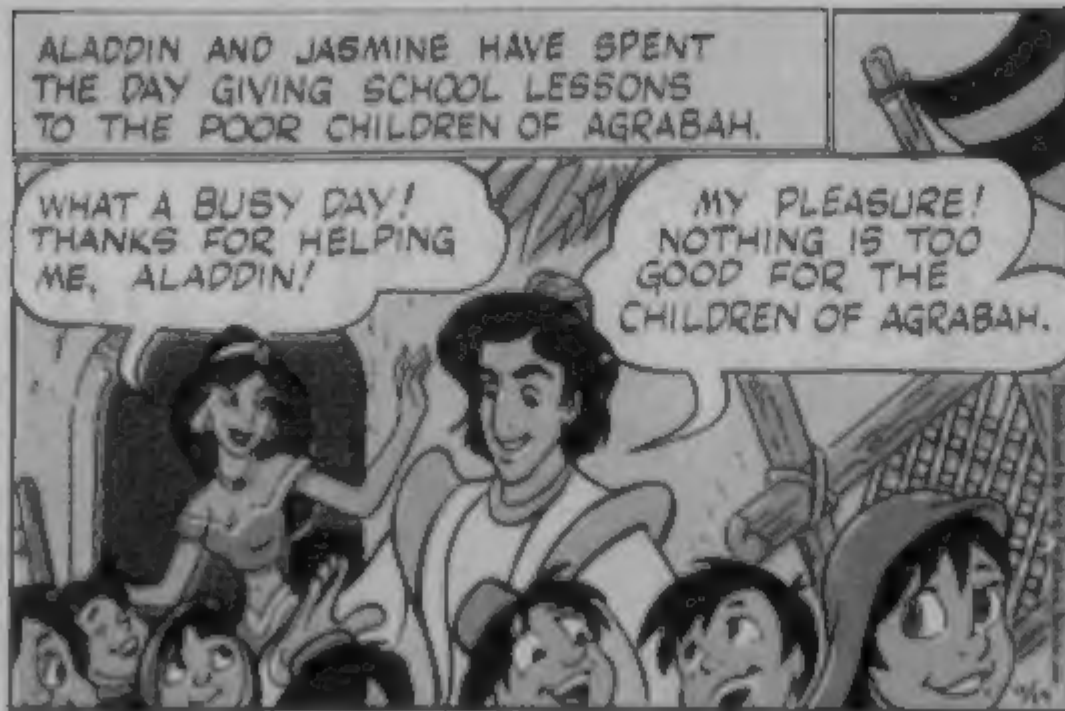
The home video is topping the charts for children this holiday season.

All ages should enjoy this newest tale drawn from ancient Arabian days and nights.

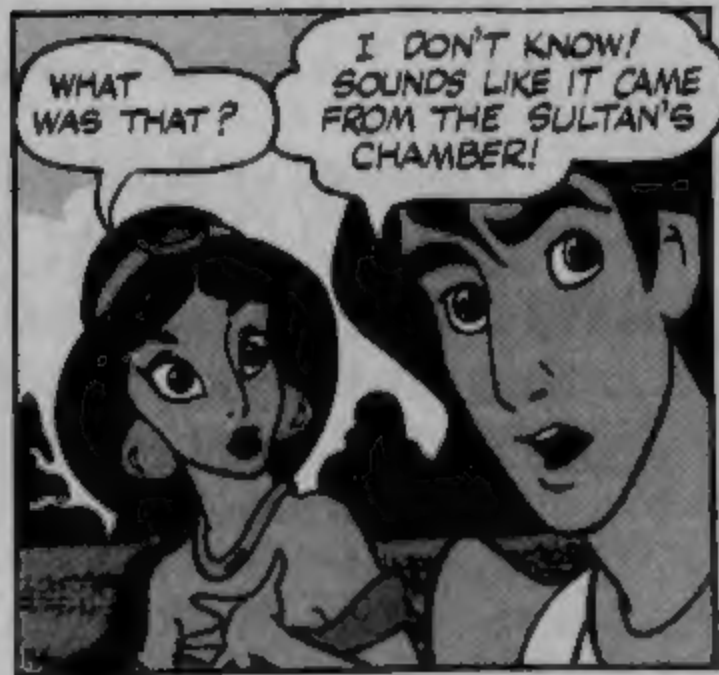
Turn to Page C7 and let four weeks of excitement begin.

DISNEY'S ALADDIN

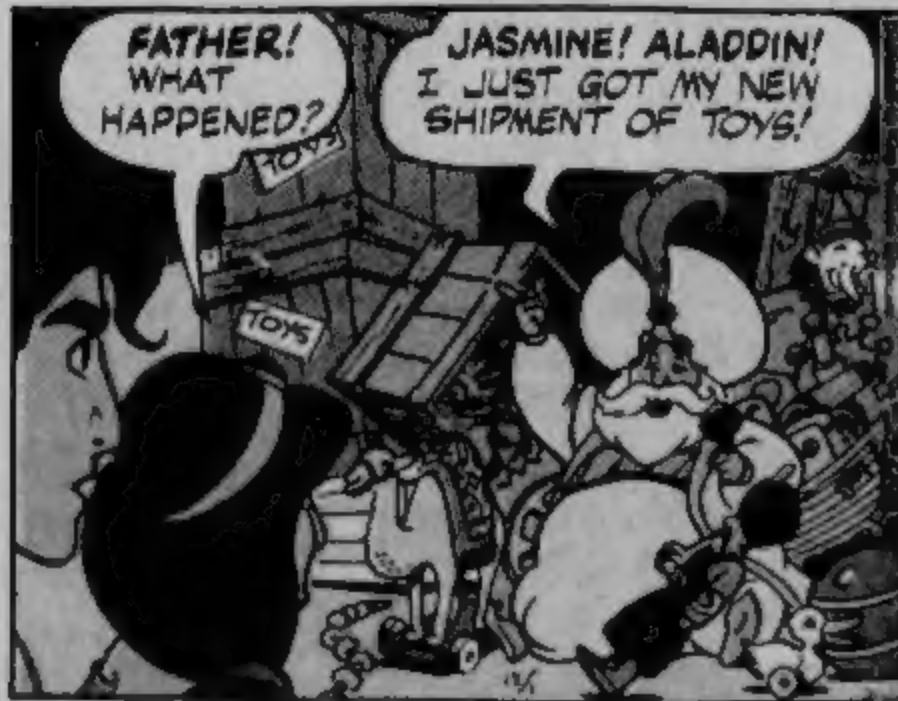
Disney's *Aladdin* is the most successful animated motion picture of all time, and starting today, we're bringing the genie's magic to the pages of A&E in a special four-week *Aladdin* holiday comic strip. Just like the *Beauty and the Beast* holiday comic that appeared last year, *Aladdin* will be published six days a week, with the final strip appearing on Christmas Day.



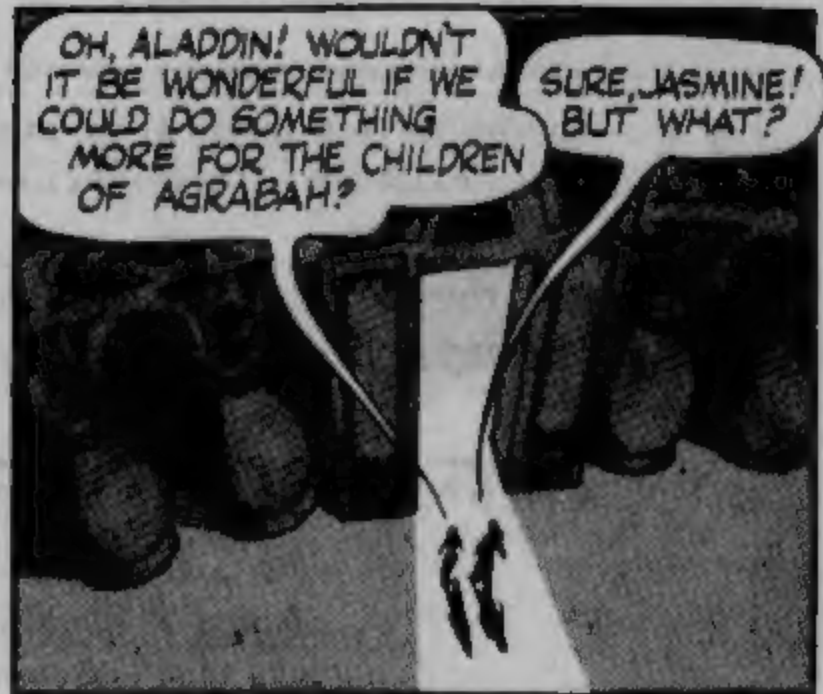
Disney's Aladdin



DISNEY'S ALADDIN



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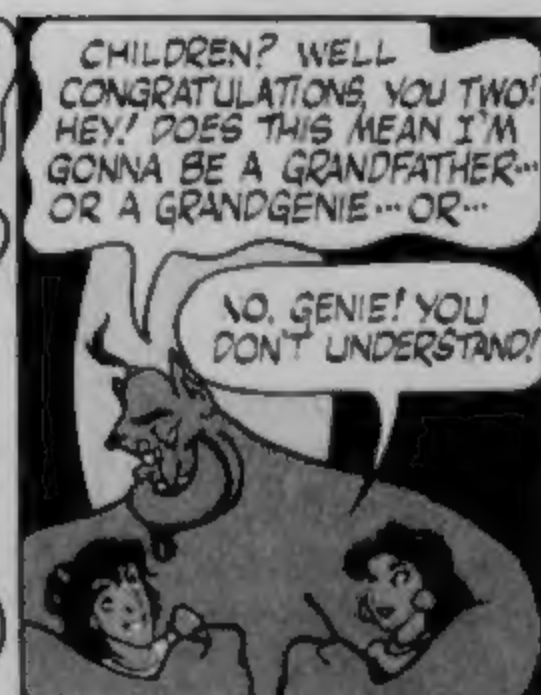
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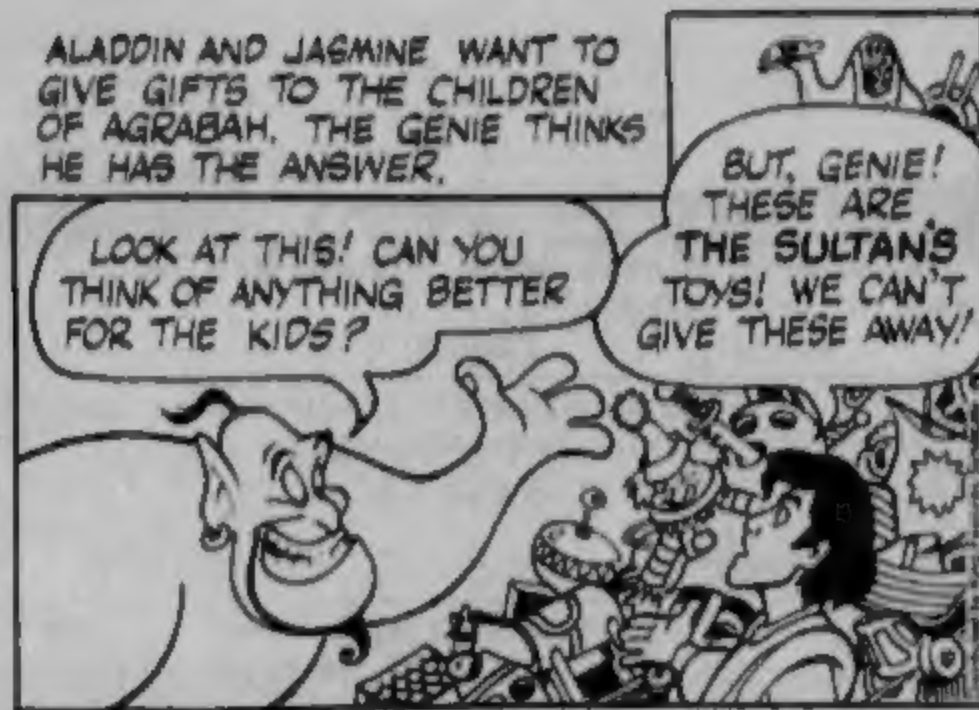
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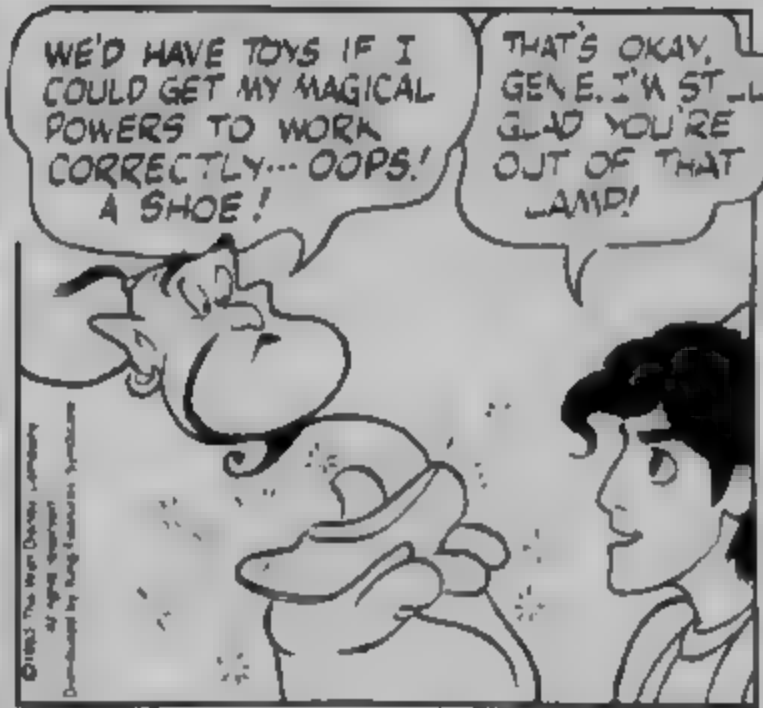
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Disney's Aladdin

Disney's Aladdin cartoon continues in A&E until Dec. 25



Disney's Aladdin



The above segment of Disney's *Aladdin* did not appear in some of yesterday's editions.



Disney's *Aladdin* cartoon continues in A&E until Dec. 25

Disney's Aladdin



Disney's Aladdin cartoon continues in A&E until next Saturday

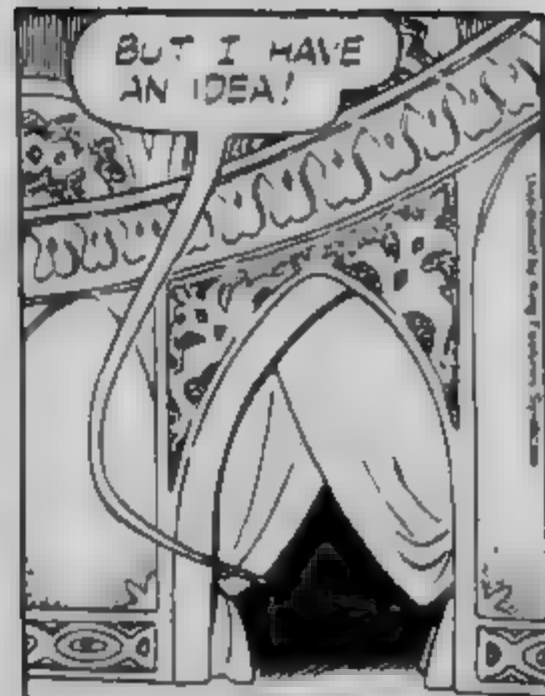
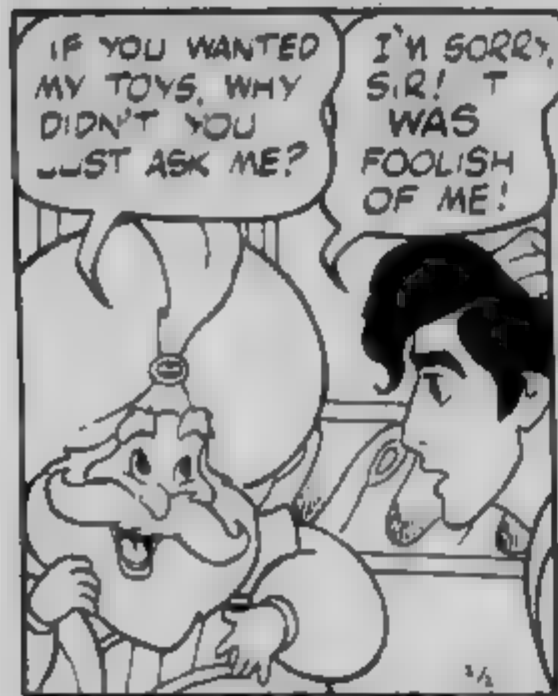
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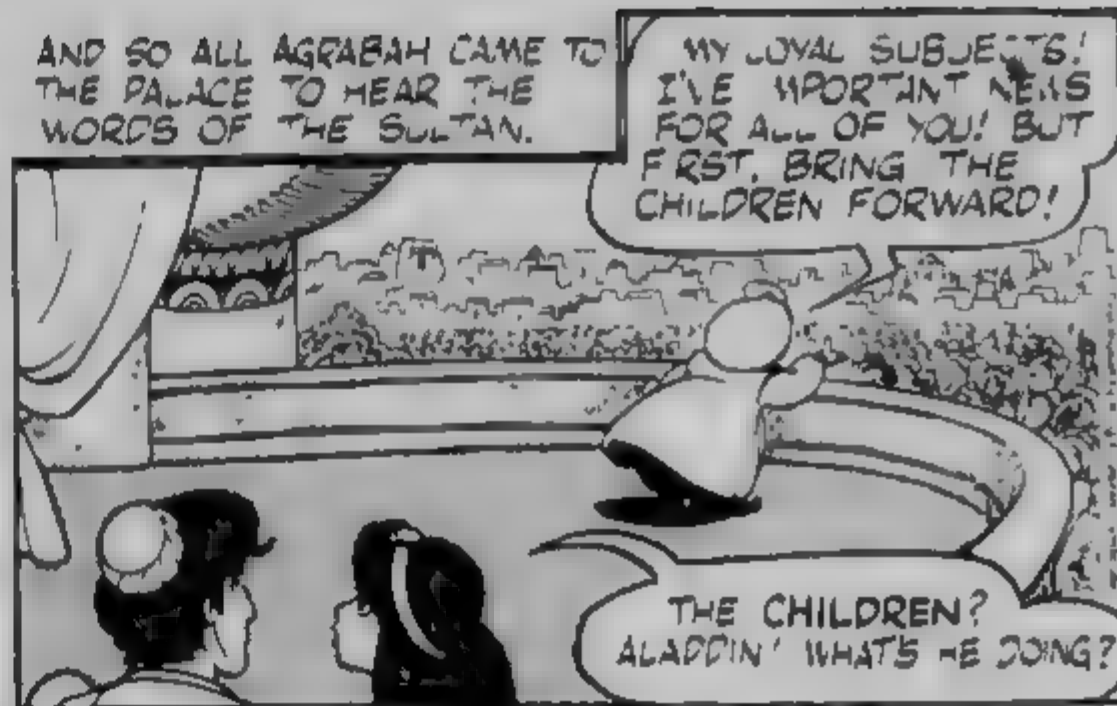
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Disney's Aladdin cartoon continues in A&E until Saturday

Disney's Aladdin



Disney's Aladdin cartoon continues in A&E through tomorrow

Disney's Aladdin

Today is the last
installment of
Disney's Aladdin
comic strip.



Aladdin's magic is charmed away by the video pirates

EXPRESS REPORTER

PIRATE videos of the blockbuster film Aladdin are being sold on the streets — two weeks before it goes on show in cinemas.

A spokesman for the makers Walt Disney said: "This is terrible news. The loss to British cinemas could be enormous if these tapes become widely available."

The feature-length cartoon is not due to be released in cinemas here until December 3 in a bid to catch family audiences over Christmas.

But copies for as little as £6 each are being sold by traders determined to cash in on the seasonal bonanza.

Nearly 100 pirate tapes were discovered last weekend by trading standards officers in Darlington.

Trading standards chief David Holiday said: "We are not talking about small counterfeiting operations — this is large-scale fraud."

Investigators also believe copies of Aladdin are being sold in Cleveland, Tyneside and Yorkshire.

Officers in Essex have recovered tape-making equipment worth £5 million after smashing two pirating rings.

They also seized a haul of Disney films such as The Jungle Book, Aladdin and Bambi. Other copies of Aladdin were seized from car boot sales. Disney stu-

ALADDIN has already become the most successful animated feature film ever made, taking more than £200 million at the American box office so far. The classic tale of the urchin and his magic lamp — with a sparkling performance by Robin Williams as the voice of the genie — has become a sure-fire Christmas hit. It won two awards at this year's Oscars — one for Tim Rice's song A Whole New World and another for Best Original Score.

dios had launched massive security precautions to make sure versions of Aladdin would not be smuggled abroad.

But despite secretly coding every copy of the film to help trace pirates, their operation was infiltrated.

A spokesman said: "We braced ourselves for the possibility of pirate copies.

"Security is very tight when it comes to a release such as this, but to find pirate copies on sale just before Christmas is bad timing from our point of view."

Reg Dixon, director of operations at the Federation Against Copyright Theft, said: "The sale of these things hits proper outlets very hard. But anyone who buys a pirate film is an idiot.

"They are usually recorded by someone using a camcorder in a cinema then transferred to video tapes. The Aladdin copies we recovered are of such an appalling quality they are not worth watching."



SPELLBINDER: Aladdin and his pet Abu

Rub Aladdin's magic lamp and win, win, win

MAGICAL PRIZES

STARTING now in your sparkling *Daily Mirror*—Aladdin, our latest, £150,000 magic rub-off game!

Your game card comes with today's paper. Take good care of it — for all this fortnight, it's your personal genie with the power to make your dreams come true.

Your eyes will pop like Aladdin's when you stroll through our magic cave—there are so many scintillating prizes to amaze you.

★ FORTY fabulous, five-day family holidays at Euro Disney.

★ FIFTY Sega Mega Drives and the great new Sega Aladdin game.

★ A THOUSAND pairs of tickets to see the fantastic, new Aladdin movie.

★ A FORTUNE to be won every day in our Magic Carpet game.

★ AND the chance to win one of 100 Sega Aladdin games in our grand prize draw.

Aladdin, the latest critically acclaimed blockbuster from Walt Disney Pictures has it all for all ages. Magic, adventure, romance and humour, enhanced by Oscar-winning music.

The Sega Aladdin game, based on the movie and produced by a team of Disney animators, is set to be the biggest seller since the record-breaking Sonic 2.

The game's sound is also sensational, taken direct from the film's outstanding score. Now take your seats for a trip to the magic of Euro Disney!

You will be wowed, as if by magic carpet, for a five-day, four-night visit to the wonderland where you can see Aladdin, Princess Jasmine, the evil Jafar and that amazing Genie, all in Aladdin's Adventureland.

Your family party of up to four people, will stay, bed and breakfast, in a Euro Disney Resort themed hotel family room, with passports to the Euro Disneyland Theme Park included.

Coach and ferry travel is part of the prize, through Wallace Arnold. The selected Euro Disney Coach operator, Wallace Arnold offer great value prices and magical service. To get a free brochure, call FREEPHONE 0800 622 246, Monday to Friday 9am to 7.30pm, Saturday 9am to 5.30pm.

From January, you will be in very good company at Euro Disney — Aladdin and his friends join the Euro Disney family.

Aladdin's Own Caravan, will bring enjoyment direct to YOU inside the Theme Park. You'll love Aladdin's Adventureland!

The Genie is already granting guests' wishes with a great Magic Lamp contest featuring the top prize of a Renault Clio car every day.

How to play our game:

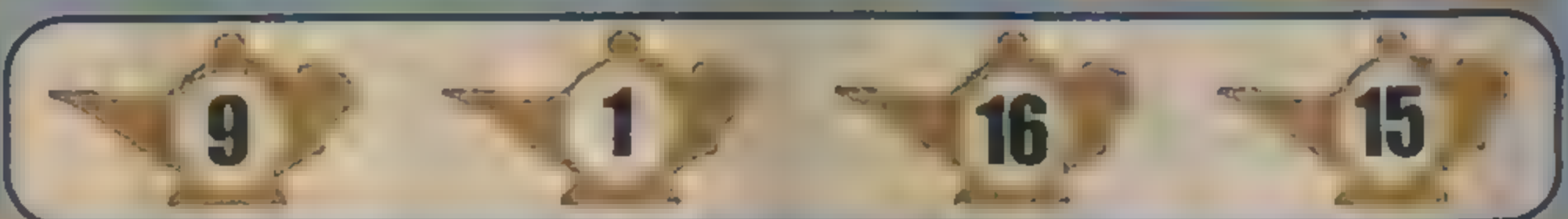
Every day in this wonderful fortnight, special Aladdin numbers will appear in the *Daily Mirror*. Find each number on your game card and rub off the magic lamp below it.

If, as the game goes on, you reveal FOUR Euro Disney Castle symbols, you win a Euro Disney holiday; reveal FOUR ticket symbols and you win a pair of film tickets; FOUR Sega symbols bring you the Mega



IT'S MAGIC: Win a family holiday at Euro Disney

You and your family could be on the way to all your wishes coming true



Drive and the Aladdin game. If you reveal SEVEN Aladdin symbols you can enter our grand draw with the chance to win a Sega Aladdin game.

IMPORTANT! Do NOT rub off any magic lamp until its number is printed—if you do, your card will be void.

HOW TO CLAIM: When you reveal either four Euro Disney Castles, four Ticket or four Sega symbols, phone

0254 683 333 between 10.30am and 4pm ON THE DAY YOU WIN.

Have your card handy. Claims cannot be accepted outside these hours.

Now for our Magic Carpet Game with 10 chances to win £1,000 every day.

Rub off the gold panel on your Magic Carpet in the game card to reveal your lucky number.

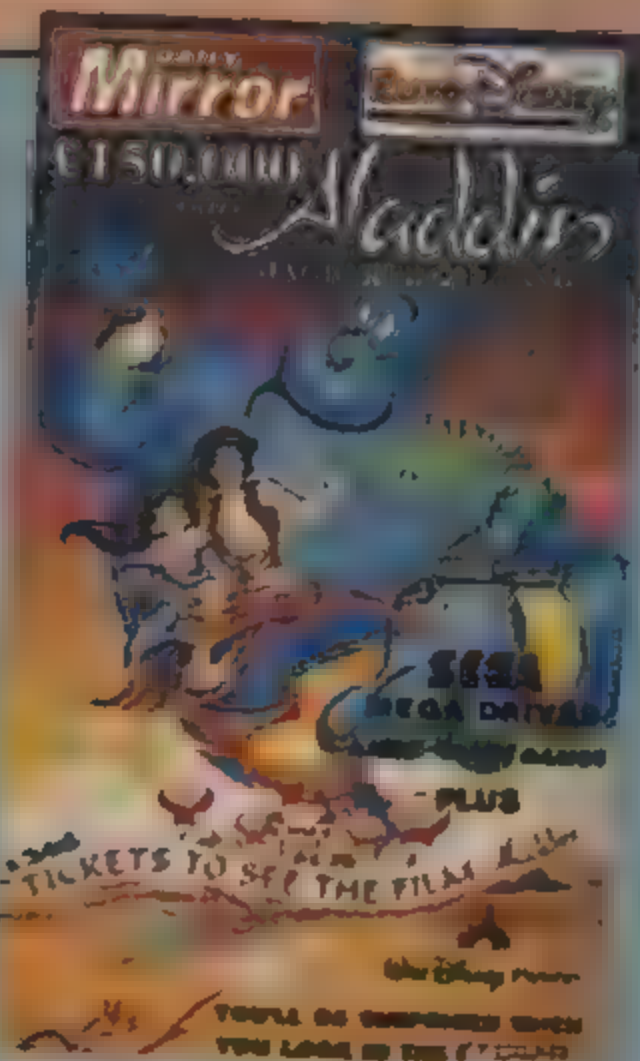
Then phone 0891 227 000 and if you hear your number, you're a winner.

Don't forget, there are ten more chances tomorrow.

Calls are 36p a minute cheap rate, 48p a minute all other times.

TO CLAIM: If your Magic Carpet number matches exactly any number announced, ring 0254 683 444 between 10.30am and 4pm up to Monday, November 29.

No claims can be accepted outside these hours. Have your game card handy.



1. No purchase necessary. Cards are available from Aladdin Game Card Request, PO Box 66, Blackburn, BB1 6AX. One card per request. Aladdin numbers are available from MGN offices. Winning Magic Carpet numbers are available from Aladdin Number Request, FREEPOST BK547, Blackburn BB2 6BR.
2. Aladdin game cards are security printed. Only game cards legitimately obtained and unaltered are acceptable. Any game cards misprinted, defaced or tampered with in any way will be void.
3. Employees and agents of Mirror Group Newspapers, MCP Ltd., Europrint Promotions Ltd, the promotional partners and their families are not eligible to enter.
4. Persons under 18 may not enter the magic carpet cash part of the game.
5. Persons under 18 must have parental permission to enter the non-cash part of the game.
6. The Editor's decisions are final in all matters relating to all games. No correspondence can be entered into.
7. MGN Ltd reserve the right to stop any game at any time and change the conditions.
8. Both games played in conjunction with the Scottish Daily Record.

Aladdin's Adventureland

AT Euro Disney

Wallace Arnold

TOMORROW

Check for more numbers — and more chances to win fabulous prizes

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RUB AND WIN WITH OUR ALADDIN CONTEST

£150,000 WORTH OF PRIZES

THE magic carpet sails on serenely in our magical £150,000 Aladdin game! It's loaded with scintillating prizes. Just rub the magic lamps and this is what you could win.

★ FORTY fabulous, five-day family holidays to Aladdin's Adventureland at the Euro Disney resort.

★ FIFTY Sega Mega Drives and the great new Sega Aladdin game.

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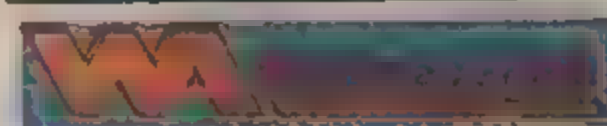
EURO DISNEY bus operator Wallace Arnold will provide a personal magic carpet to the land of make-believe for our holiday winners.

You will be heading in style for a five-day, four-night visit to Euro Disney resort.

Your family, up to four people, will stay, b&bt, in a Euro Disney Resort theme hotel with passports to the Euro Disney Theme Park included.

How to play our game: Every day special Aladdin numbers will appear in the Daily Mirror. Find each number on

Aladdin's
Adventureland
AT
Euro Disney



SEGA



OPEN SESAME: You are on to a goldmine at Aladdin's Adventureland

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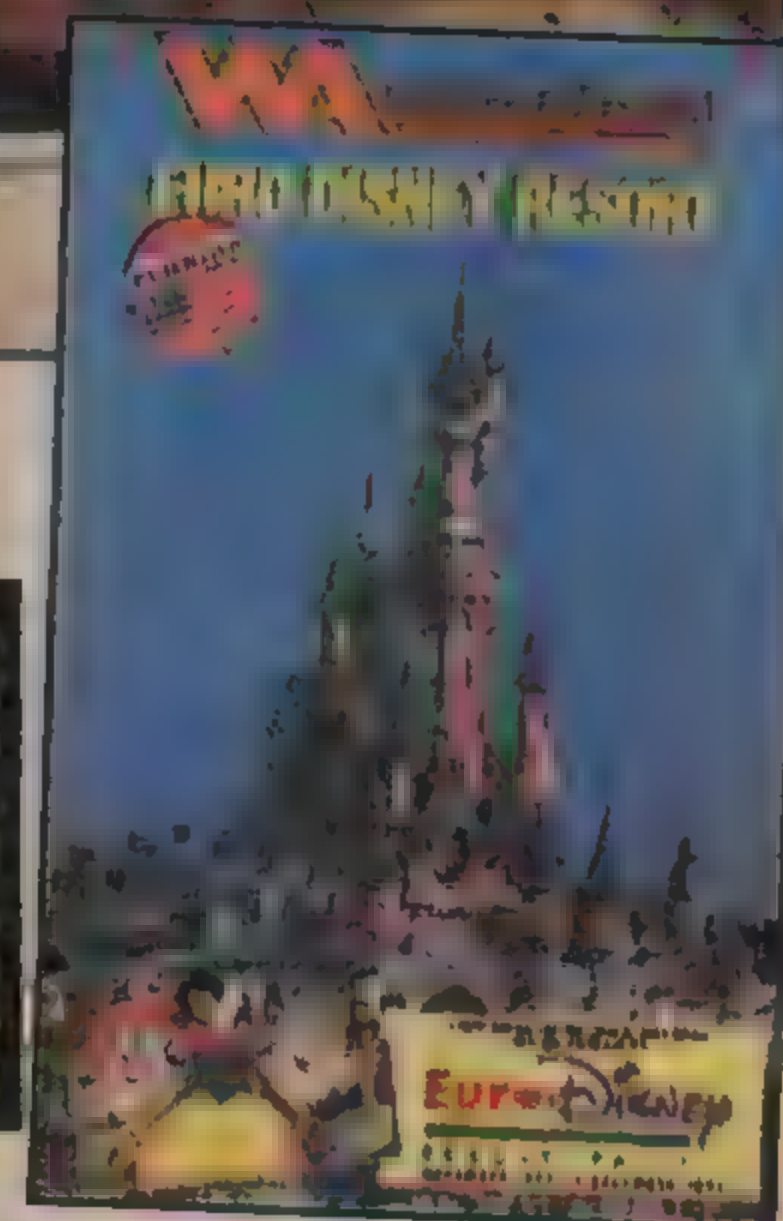
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No claims can be accepted outside these hours.

TRAVEL to see the new Aladdin's Adventureland at Euro Disney with Wallace Arnold. For a new 1994 FREE brochure call FREEPHONE 0800 622246, Monday to Friday 9am to 7.30pm, Saturday 9am to 5.30pm.



MAGIC MOMENTS: Win a copy of the super Aladdin game on Sega

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regret that though every reasonable precaution is taken, no responsibility can be accepted for the flights, accommodation, time-share and property offered through these columns, or for any loss arising therefrom.

A FREE FILM BADGE FOR ALADDIN FANS!



Sheer Genie-us .. pick up a great Aladdin badge with the Record

DISCOVER YOUR OWN TREASURE

FANCY a **FREE** Aladdin badge? Your wish is our command!

Walt Disney's blockbuster movie, *Aladdin*, hits cinema screens throughout Britain on December 3.

It's a mystical tale that is guaranteed to be full of Eastern promise.

And now we are offering YOU the chance to discover your own

piece of Aladdin treasure. Of course we can't lend you the Genie ... but we do have an **EXCLUSIVE** film badge to give away **FREE** to Record readers.

Just cut out the voucher below, then cut out and affix Token 1. Keep them safe. Token 2 will be printed tomorrow.

MAGICAL

When your voucher is complete, with two different tokens, take it along to your local Esso Service Station and pick up your super **FREE** badge.

There's also a host of other Aladdin Treasures, such as magical mugs and mysterious puzzles from the Esso Collection.

These can be yours, in exchange for Tiger Tokens - one of which is given out with every £6 of fuel purchased.

So why not call in to your friendly Esso Station, and sample a little bit of magic this Christmas?

Daily Record

Esso

ALADDIN BADGE VOUCHER

EXCHANGE this voucher, with two separately numbered Daily Record/Esso tokens correctly affixed in the spaces provided, for **ONE FREE DAILY RECORD/ESSO ALADDIN BADGE**, while stocks last.

AFFIX

Esso

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AFFIX

Esso

TOKEN 2 HERE

Esso

Daily Record

Esso

TOKEN 1

**DON'T MISS
TOKEN 2
TOMORROW**

Redeemable only at participating Esso Service Stations.

Closing date of offer, 8 December 1993, or earlier if stocks used before that date.

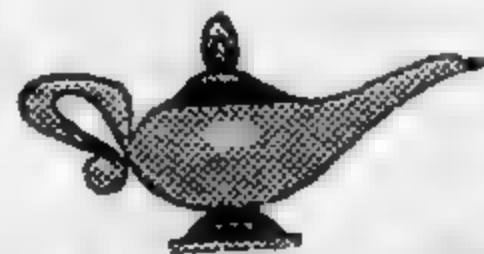
Children under 17 must be accompanied by an adult.

THERE'S A LITTLE MAGIC EVERY DAY IN ALADDIN

Carpet ride to visit a legend



SITTING PRETTY: Aladdin



IT took more than a little magic to arrange an interview with film star Aladdin. I had to take a carpet ride to the mythical kingdom of Agrabah to catch our boy at home with the delightful Princess Jasmine.

Being the Sultan's daughter, she had a servant put the kettle on at the palace and it wasn't long before we were enjoying a good old chin-wag.

Aladdin's now a major star AND he's got his girl!

Born in the poor quarter of Agrabah in 645 AD, the nimble-footed 17-year-old does a neat line in patter too.

I kicked off by asking what he enjoyed doing in his spare time.

"I love music. My favourite stuff is Evita and Little Shop of Horrors.

"Cooking's a bit of a favourite too, although I don't get much chance in the palace. Apples, stuffed grape leaves and a heaping helping of hummus are my tastiest treats," he said.

Aladdin's a keen gymnast — handy for getting out of scrapes in his early life — and enjoys weightlifting and break-dancing (That's what he said!).

Surprising as it might seem, he's afraid of snakes and "obnoxious parrots", obviously referring to evil Jafar's feathered pet monster here.

As we walked through the glittering corridors and state rooms of the Sultan's gaff, Aladdin expanded more on his past.

"My favourite memory was that flying carpet ride with the girl I love. Later they told me we went around the world but all I saw was her.

"Of course, my heart belongs to Jasmine but the Genie grew on me and Abu is my best buddy."

What was his most risky experience? "Fighting a cobra the size of the rock of Gibraltar."

Aladdin doesn't like parasailing, bungee-jumping or villain bashing but his favourite job would be test-flying carpets.

Who would he like to marry? Aladdin had no problems with this one.

Well, she should be smart, fun, beautiful... hmmm, sounds like this princess I know."

As he escorted me back to the magic carpet, I asked Aladdin one final question — what was his worst habit?

He looked up with a twinkle in his eye and whispered: "I'm not always entirely honest!"

● Jeremy Taylor was talking to co-directors Ron Clements and John Musker — the scriptwriters for Aladdin.



ONE

ALADDIN is a poor street boy who dreams of riches and whose only friend is his pet monkey Abu



TWO

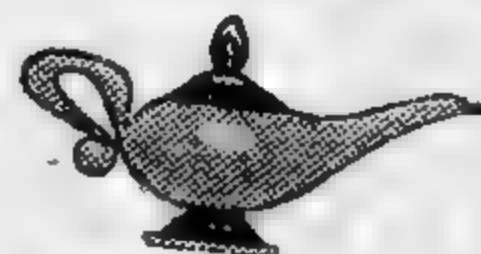
PRINCESS Jasmine, whose pet is a tiger, is sad at a decree that she may only marry a prince



SIX

POW! Aladdin rubs the magic lamp and a fast-talking genie appears

Disney's Aladdin is a magic carpet ride to adventure. JEREMY TAYLOR reveals why the movie has become such a massive hit.



OKAY, so Robin Williams is the genie, it cost a fortune to make but just what IS Aladdin about?

It's a uniquely entertaining version of the classic Arabian Nights fairytale of course.

Set against the exotic backdrop of the mythical Arabian Kingdom Agrabah, the film's a magic carpet ride of fantasy and fun.

Far beyond the twinkling lights of the town, a magic lamp lies hidden in a mysterious cave.

The Sultan's most trusted advisor, Jafar — who is anything but trustworthy — wants the lamp more than tickets for a cup final.

Dreams

Yet only one person may enter the cave, one whose "rags hide a heart that is pure".

All kinds of people have tried to get their hands on it but nobody has managed.

Enter Aladdin, the ragged, street-smart youth who dreams of better things and the chance to win the heart of the Sultan's daughter Jasmine.

A sort of trainee Del Boy, Aladdin is sent by evil Jafar into the cave of wonders and a world of unexpected adventure.

The lamp looks like a piece of junk but there's a surprise in store when Aladdin starts to rub it.

Suddenly smoke pours from the spout, filling the cave and a genie appears.

Together with his pet monkey Abu, our boy not only ends up with the lamp

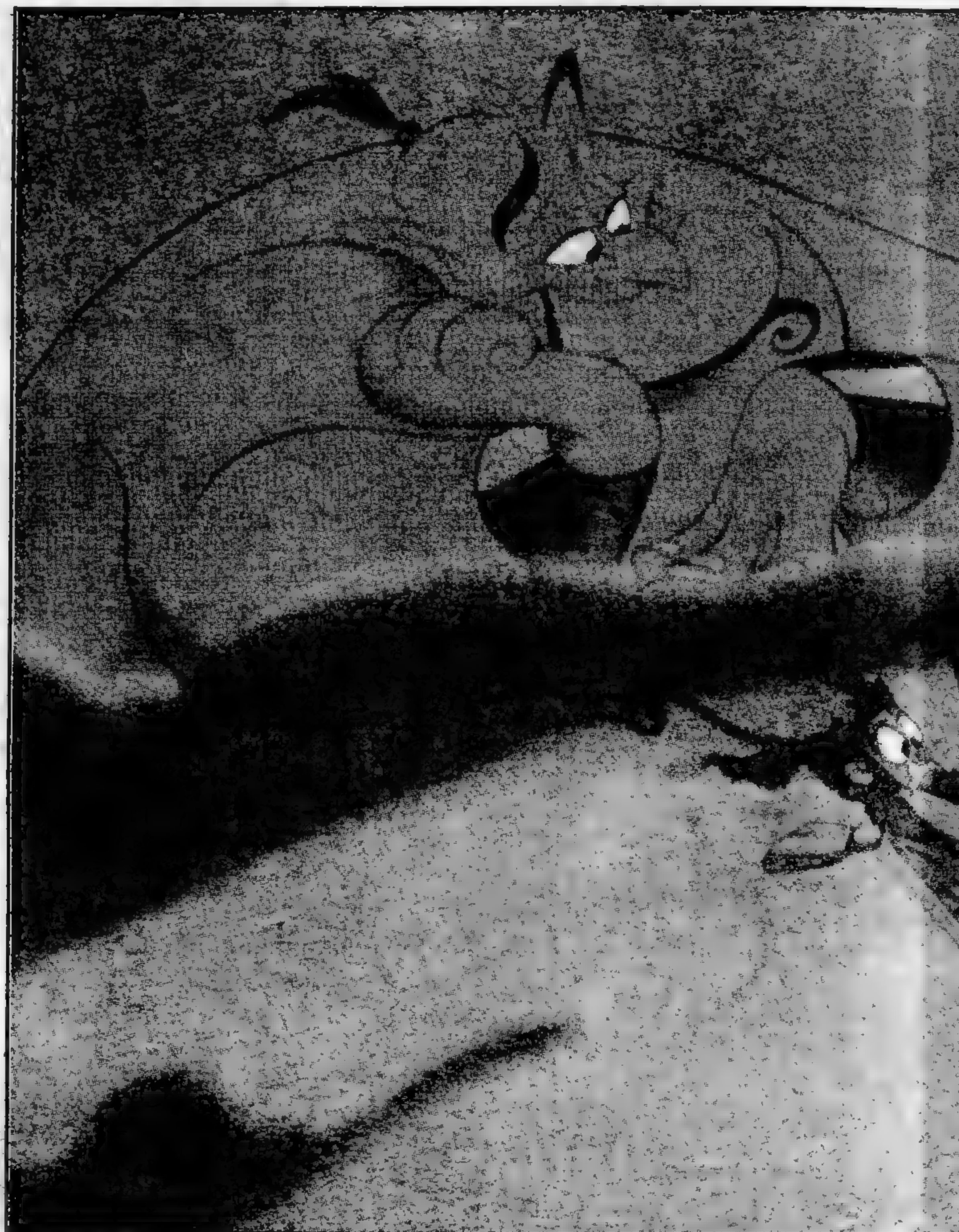
but the huge and hilarious genie.

"I'm telling you it's nice to be back, ladies and gentlemen, what's your name," he shouts at Aladdin.

"Nice to have you on the show. Can I call you Al, or maybe Din, or how about Laddie?"

But Aladdin soon learns that it will take more than a genie and a few magic wishes to win the love of the strong-willed Princess.

His other problem is out-witting clever Jafar and his wisecracking parrot who are prepared to stop at nothing to get the lamp and the power it holds.



SEVEN

UP AND AWAY: With his princess, his genie and his flying carpet Aladdin is all set to d

PURE GENIE

Jafar casts a spell on the Sultan with his magic stick and persuades the king to let him marry his daughter.

And it's then left to Aladdin to sort out the mess, with and without the help of his genie chum.

Aladdin is a film the WHOLE family will be able to enjoy this Christmas.

Enranced

Directors John Musker and Ron Clements have worked that old Disney magic once more to come up with a feast of fun and entertainment.

Aladdin (certificate U) ★★★★★ is

probably the best ani

decades. It ranks up there w

Snow White And The Bambi and even the Jun all-time greats.

And don't worry mu you are worried about 91 minutes of howling popcorn, this one will

tranced. In fact, it will have Y

I guarantee the Genie rolling in the aisles. He's the fastest-tall you'll ever hear.

TURN OVER FOR A CHANCE TO BE THE FIRST TO SEE TH

WEEK WITH YOUR EVENING POST AND

BARRATT
Artists' Premier House Studio
0800 37-38-39



EVIL Jafar plots with his nasty parrot to marry the princess and seize his master's kingdom



FOUR

ALADDIN meets the princess when she strays from the palace — and soon they are falling in love



FIVE

JAFAR sends Aladdin into a sinister cave filled with treasure — but all Jafar wants is the magic lamp



feat Jafar and make his dreams come true

Kids adore the magic of Aladdin

IT'S a film for kids right? **WRONG.** *Aladdin* is a rib-tickler for all ages but your young 'uns will be thrilled by what they see.

We invited a group of lucky children from Elmlea Junior School in Westbury-on-Trym to attend a special screening of the film last month.

They went along with their mums and dads and had the time of their lives.

Afterwards, we asked them to say what they really thought about it and what their own three wishes would be.

Here's what they wrote:

Sarah Wright, age 11.

"I thought *Aladdin* was fantastic from start to finish. It was full of funny jokes and lovely songs. I particularly loved the magical genie who was really funny and made Aladdin's dream come true.

"My wishes would be to see *Aladdin* again, to be a journalist when I grow older, and to go to EuroDisney."

Briony McKean, aged 9.

"I really like *Aladdin*. It was excellent. My favourite bit was when Abu pretended to be the Princess Jasmine. My favourite characters were the Genie and Abu. It was very funny, I really enjoyed it.

"The Genie is very funny and so is Abu. The Princess is called Jasmine. Aladdin wishes to be Prince Ali. He also wishes that the Genie is set free."

"My wishes would be to stop all the wars, to go to America, and to help starving children."

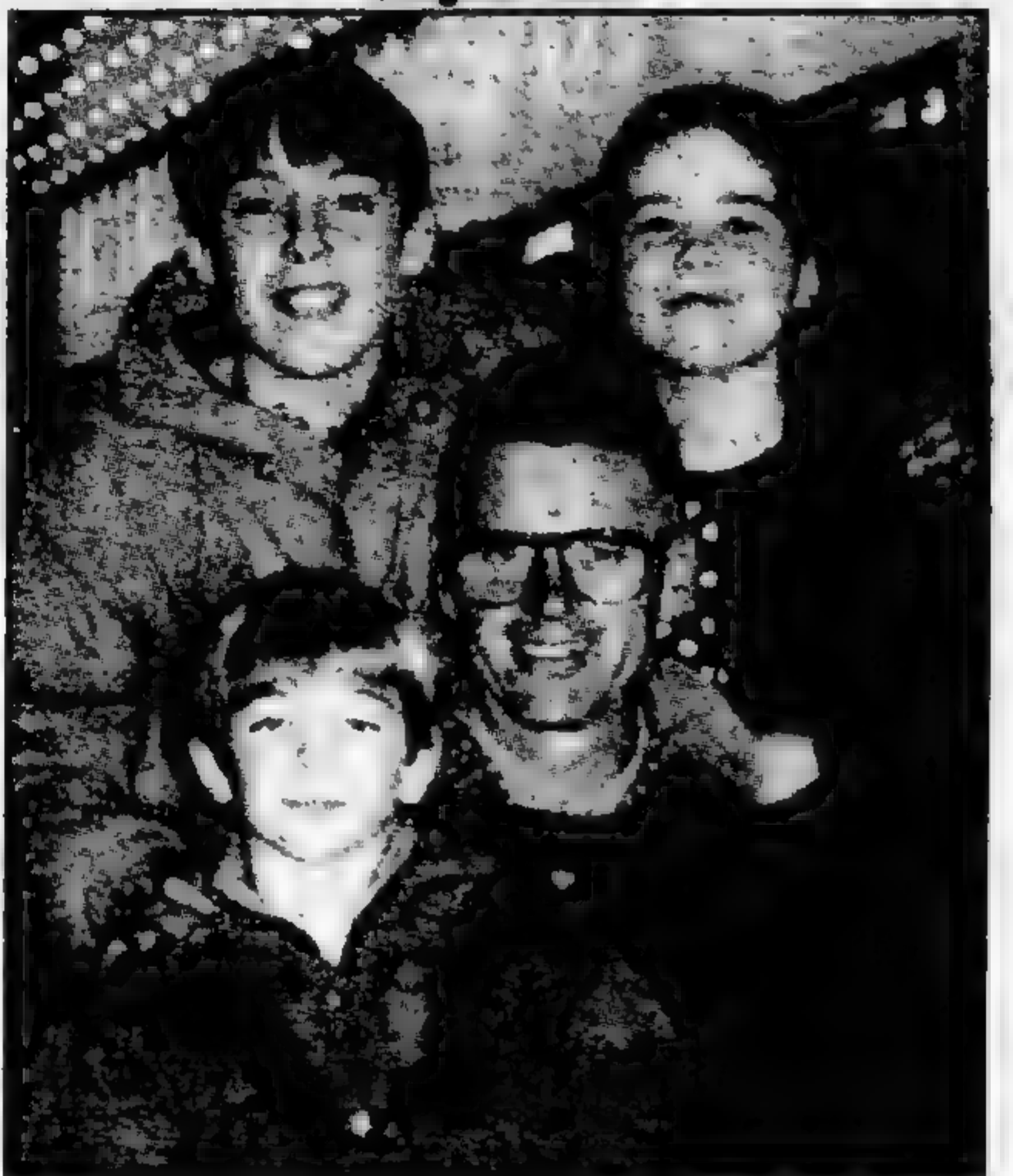
Anna Blanchard, aged 8.

"I was very excited when I knew I was going to see *Aladdin*. I found it difficult to work at school for the rest of the day. In the film I liked the genie best and the part when Aladdin said to the genie: 'I wish you to be free.'"

"My wishes would be to have a panda, a china doll and a gold doll."



★ IMPRESSED: Graham and Julie Wright with their daughter Sarah



★ IMPRESSED: Dave McKean and his children Max, Ben and Briony

E-US

ated film for
th the likes of
Seven Dwarfs,
gle Book as one

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kids throwing
have them en-

OU entranced.
will have you
ing character

The truth is Williams didn't even use a script. The comedy superstar just ad-libbed the lot and Disney staff dubbed in the dialogue.

The animators drew around his crazy rantings and hey presto! — we've got one heck of a movie.

Williams, star of *Good Morning Vietnam* and *Dead Poets' Society*, deserves an Oscar for his exhaustive efforts. He transforms Aladdin from an okay offering into a masterpiece.

It's a film made for the big screen and if you wait until the video hits the shelves it could prove a disappointment.



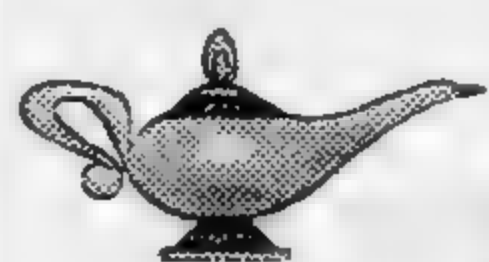
THE MOVIE AND FOR SOME FANTASTIC READER OFFERS

Aladdin Week

SIX MAGICAL DAYS WITH YOUR SUPER POST AND

BARRATT
Bristol's Premier House Builders
0800 37-38-39

There's no need for you to rub a magic lamp and make a wish — your Post has come up with a haul of Aladdin Week gems for you!



YOUR Evening Post has raided Aladdin's cave to bring you a whole treasure trove of offers and competitions.

Our haul includes a chance to be among the first in the West to see the hit movie at our special charity screening.

Throughout the week we'll be giving you details of how 20 readers can win the award-winning CD soundtrack of Disney's *Aladdin*.

It features tunes by songwriters Alan Menken, Howard Ashman and Tim Rice (see story, right), including the hit *A Whole New World* sung by Regina Belle and Peabo Bryson.

The songs won Oscars in the best score and best song categories at the academy awards in Hollywood.

To help give you a flavour of Aladdin's mysterious East we've lined up a particularly tasty offer.

There's 500 delicious bars of Fry's Turkish Delight waiting to be claimed by those of you with a sweet tooth.

We'll also have 50 of Panini's super Aladdin albums up for grabs — together with some stickers to get your collections started.

The Post has teamed up with the Cannon Cinema at Henleaze, Bristol, to raise hundreds of pounds for Children In Need through a special charity screening of the film.



★ LISTEN UP, FOLKS! Disney's genie has some treats in store for Aladdin and his pals — and we've got some lined up for YOU

IT'S A CAVE OF GOODIES



Aladdin opens in Bristol on Friday and the response is likely to be huge. So wouldn't it be nice to leave the queues behind,

attend our one-off viewing — and help a charity?

All you have to do is answer the following simple question:

● Who is the voice of the Genie in Walt Disney's *Aladdin*?

Write your answer on a postcard or the reverse of a sealed envelope and send it to Aladdin Competition, Bristol Evening Post, PO Box 881, Temple Way, Bristol BS99 7HH.

Your entry **MUST** be with us by 10am on Wednesday, December 1.

The first 90 out of the hat will be posted a token for the charity screening — the token guarantees two people entry at the reduced price of £2 per seat.

Take it with you to the special screening — the token guarantees two people entry at the reduced price of £2 per seat.

And the first name out of the hat will win the extra special prize of an Aladdin goodie bag.

So don't miss your Post all this week — it's going to be a magical six days!

Now Tim plays a modest tune!

★ WHEN Tim Rice won an Oscar earlier this year, not even the man himself could get desperately excited.

He put the award in a cupboard at his holiday home in North Cornwall, there to be admired by the Rice family on their infrequent visits to the cottage.

"I didn't know what to do with it," admits Tim, who won his Oscar for providing the lyrics to the Aladdin song *Whole New World*. "If you stick it on a mantelpiece, it looks rather ostentatious so it's in a sort of glass-fronted cupboard where only careful scrutiny will reveal it."

Tim, 48, adopts as carefree an attitude to the award's



■ MODEST: Tim Rice who won an Oscar for his theme tune to *Aladdin*

sitting as he does to the actual triumph.

"Put it this way, I'd rather have won it than hadn't won it but you can't take the whole thing too seriously. I got that award for being in the right place at the right time."

★ Tim admits he was hurt by the indifferent reaction to his success in March.

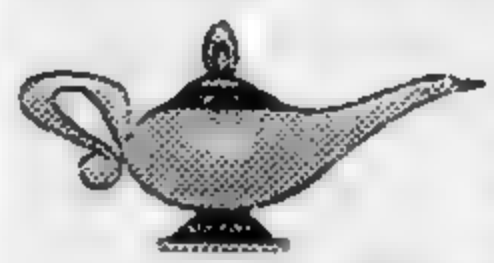
When he accepted his Oscar he said: "At least people know I'm still alive."

Now he says: "It was pretty annoying when I'd been working very hard at Disney and people hadn't got a clue what I'd been up to."

In fact, Tim is part way through a lucrative, three-year deal with Disney. As well as writing lyrics for songs in *Aladdin* he's teamed up with Elton John to work on another animated film called *The Lion King*.

He's hoping it will be as successful as *Aladdin* which has already carved out a niche in cinema history.

A US box-office take of 217 million dollars makes it the most successful animated film of all time and it could yet be the most popular video.



YOUR Post will be spreading our Aladdin magic with the help of top housebuilder Barratt this week.

Genie-al Alistair Stuart, the firm's sales and marketing manager in the West Country, has no doubt why Barratt homes have made some many buyers' dreams come true.

He said the firm's homes had stayed popular throughout the recent tough times.

"But there's no magic involved. We simply listen to what people ask for and then do our very best to supply it."

"Moving home doesn't have



to be a pantomime with lots of problems and rushing around.

We're geared up to treat buyers as individuals and help them to start enjoying their new home as fast as possible."

But when many purchasers have been trying to sell their old home for months, if not years, the Barratt offer of full-value part-exchange does seem like magic.

The fastest move so far was just 26 days after making a reservation.

First-time buyers benefit with their own schemes, such as having the five per cent deposit and £1,000 towards their purchase costs paid by Barratt.

Having just sold their last home in Bradley Stoke, Barrett, are now concentrat-

ing on three further developments.

They are Woodridge at St Anne's, Bristol; Greengate in Warmley, Bristol, and Sandringham, close to the seafrost in Weston-super-Mare.

"Our wish for the new year is to carry on helping lots of people move into their best ever home — and that they then live happily ever after," said Mr Stuart.

Builder makes wishes come true

OUR GENIE WILL BE MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE ALL WEEK

Aladdin Week

THE POST AND



MAKE YOUR WISHES COME TRUE



COMPUTER programmer Vaughan Brant is just a BIG kid when it comes to mechanical diggers.

The 31-year-old, who comes from Brimsham Park, Yate, always wanted to get behind the wheel and start tearing up the turf.

In the end, his wife Cathy decided to write to our Genie in a bid to make his dream come true.

This is what she wrote:

You're looking for a wacky wish, my husband's is quite mad.

If you could make his dream come true, I'm sure he would be glad.

He wants a little digger, to ride on all the day.

To move great lumps of dirt around is his idea of play.

He doesn't know I'm writing this, to win would really stun. I'm sure if you could fix it, he would have a lot of fun.

Well, of course, Cathy's wish for her hubby was our Genie's command and it wasn't long before Vaughan found himself sitting firmly in the driving seat.

Controls

Aladdin Week sponsors Barratt Homes rolled out a heavyweight machine at their popular St Anne's Board Mills site.

After a quick check over the controls, Vaughan was on his way.

He dug holes, filled them in and then dug a few more. In fact, Barratt staff had a job getting him out again!

Popped

And just when he thought the fun was all over, our Genie popped out of the bucket to present him with a small replica to play with at home.

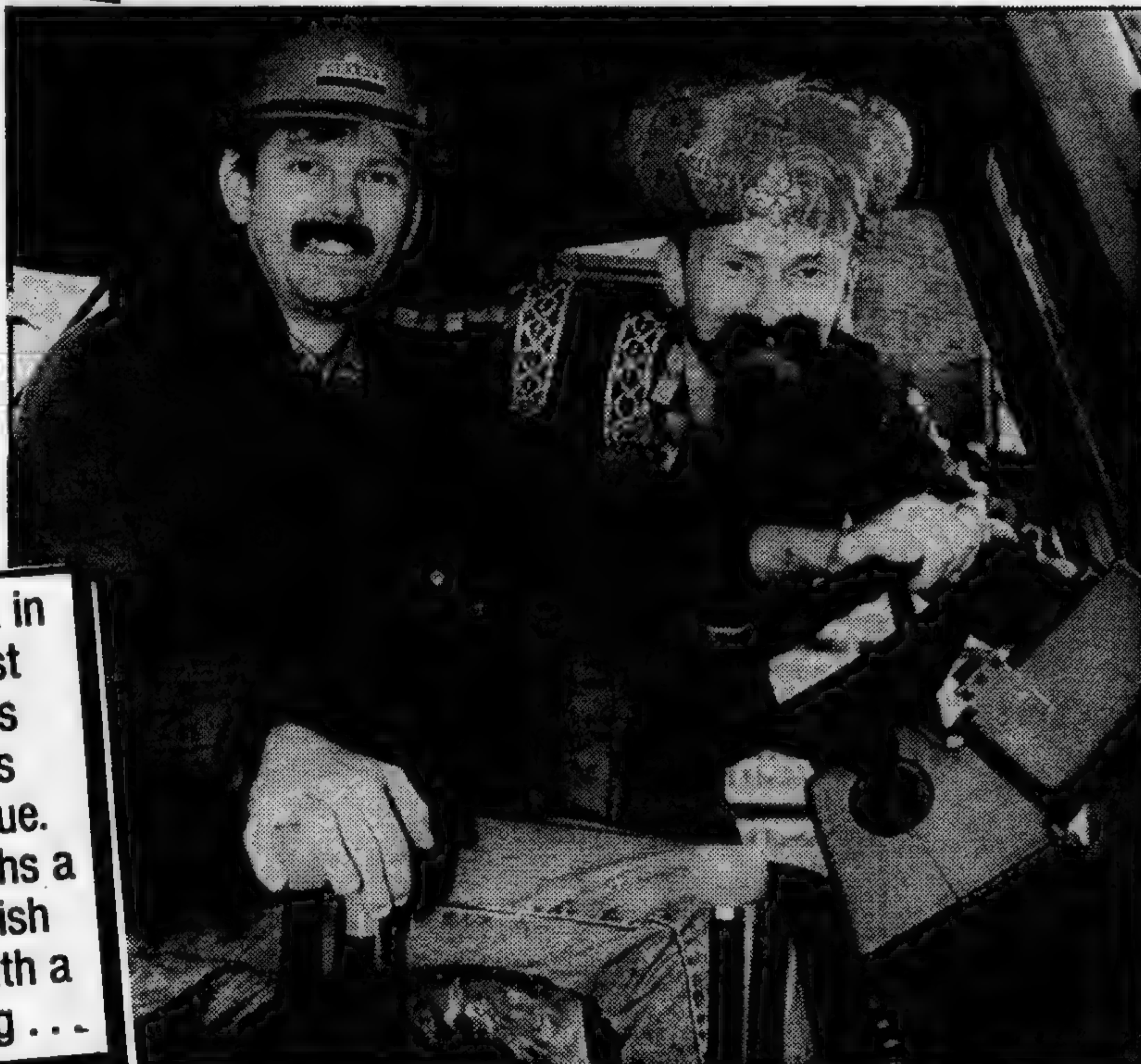
"It was brilliant fun and something I've always wanted to do," said Vaughan.

To set the day firmly in the family archives, wife Cathy took along her camcorder to make a video of the proceedings.

"He absolutely loved it. Thanks very much for making his wish come true."

● IN wacky wish number two, mum-to-be Joanne Atwell was simply swept off her feet by our

It's Aladdin Week in the Evening Post and our Genie is making readers dreams come true. Today, he unearths a really wacky wish and helps out with a spot of shopping...



■ HEAVY MOB: Vaughan Brant of Yate at the controls with a little help from our friend

BOY, DIG THIS LOT!



■ MAGIC: Our Genie takes expectant mum, Joanne Atwell for a ride

Genie who gave her the ride of a lifetime.

The man of the lamp traded in his magic carpet for a limousine for the day to go Joanne's rescue.

He spotted her loaded down with two bags of shopping at a bus stop in Bedminster.

Our man hopped out and Joanne, from Knowle, was helped

in to the luxury Genie-Mobile together with her heavy bags.

She said the whole experience was magic: "I've just finished my job today and I thought this was a wind-up by my work friends."

"I've never been in a car like this before — goodness knows what the neighbours are going to think when they see it!"

Chauffeur

But the treat didn't stop there. Our Genie though Joanne deserved a little treat as it was her last day at work.

So he made the chauffeur pull over at a shop to buy her a box of choccies and some plonk to celebrate.

Joanne added: "Thanks for making my day so special — it was a real treat."

● Don't forget, there's more wacky wishes in your Post tomorrow in day two of Aladdin Week.

WHAT A GENIE-US

EVERYONE has wanted to have three wishes from a genie at some point to make a dream come true. But however you may have envisaged your mysterious helper, it's unlikely he would look like a shimmering vision in blue.

And it's also unlikely he would have the ability to take on as many guises as the big, blue wise-cracking star of the Walt Disney film *Aladdin*.

From the moment he billows onto the screen from the magic lamp, this manic genie magically manages to change into endless shapes.

Characters

From a Scotsman to a Scottie Dog, a Mexican to a Maitre D, the Genie (with the voice of Robin Williams) does the lot.

Here's a run down of some of the characters he turns into:

● Ed Sullivan, a cube, cash register, Groucho Marx, boxer, fire cracker, chicken, hairdresser, beautician, manicurist, pedicurist, hoofer, bunny, dragon, bug-eyed monster, certificate, pair of lips, Peter Laurie, Robert De Niro, air hostess, NBC compere Harry and June, sheep, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Pinocchio, conjuror, Frenchman, chef, Caesar, tailor, Arsenio Hall, Majorette, beggar, small child, baby tiger, baby goat and Jack Nicholson.

Murder in the wild West

BRISTOL has had more than its fair share of murders most foul — and no-one knows more about the subject than local author Veronica Smith.

After her spine-chilling book *Twenty Bristol Murders*, she's been delving into the archives once again to produce an equally bloodthirsty follow-up.

Murder and Mayhem in the West! (Redcliffe Press, £3.99) pinpoints the immediate post-war years as a particularly black period for crime in the city.

Veronica highlights the 1946 shooting of Odeon Cinema manager Robert Parrington Jackson.

Her book was just going to press last month when, by the oddest of coincidences, the identity of the killer was finally revealed — hence a very hasty footnote.

There's a chapter on the unresolved 1949 murder of Knowle



■ ODEON: Murder scene

bank manager George Black, who was gunned down by a raider.

The following year brought the brutal killing of widow Ethel Worth in her home at Hughenden Road, Horfield.

Police didn't have to look far for the culprit — next door neighbour Ted Woodfield.

One of the saddest stories also occurred in 1950 when two young Poles, who shared rooms in City Road, St Pauls, carried out an armed robbery on Lloyds Bank, North View, Westbury Park.

The pair escaped with just £28, hotly pursued by bank officials, shopkeepers and passers-by.

Enter a true hero... 29-year-old judo expert and athlete Robert Taylor, from Fishponds.

Fearlessly, he closed on the robbers, one of whom then turned and shot him at point blank range.

Taylor died before reaching hospital... a shocking end, as Veronica points out, for a young man who had fought for his country in North Africa, Italy and Sicily during the Second World War.

CHRIS DUCKER

TOMORROW: THE GENIE'S SWEET SURPRISE FOR YOUNGSTER

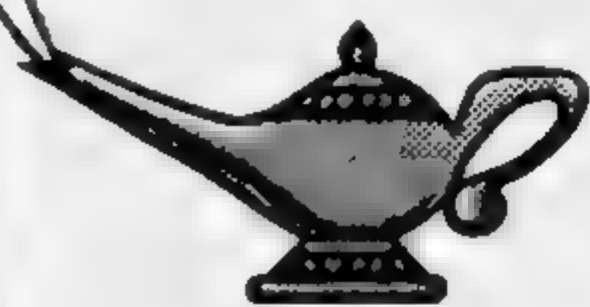
Aladdin Week

THE POST AND



MAKE YOUR WISHES COME TRUE

Today, our Genie has a sweet surprise for two sisters and makes a real Jasmine the princess for the day



IT'S a messy business eating sweets as this picture proves.

But when Katie Davis wrote to our Genie asking for a

trip round the chocolate factory how could our man refuse?

Despite having mysterious powers he's a bit of a softie himself and often sinks his teeth into a Turkish Delight.

Katie, aged eight, wrote this note to him:

Dear Genie, my sister Abbie is only six so I am writing this letter for her. She wants to go to a chocolate factory and see lots of chocolates and taste it, love Katie. PS I could go with her.

It just took a quick phone call to Cadbury's in Keynsham to arrange the VIP trip for the girls.

They were delighted to help and arranged for the sisters to make the special tour.

Kitted out in white overalls and hats they soon fulfilled their REAL wish, tasting lots of messy chocolate Curly Wurlies.

Katie and Abbie, from Hengrove in Bristol, were shown how sweets are made and toured the production lines.

Brilliant

They peered into huge vats of chocolate and watched thousands of bars rolling off the lines.

Mum Julie Davis said afterwards: "They had a brilliant time but I'm surprised they weren't sick."

"They both love chocolate but it is a real treat for them because I'm very careful about their teeth."

"The Post Genie really made their wish come true. They were more interested in eating rather than seeing how it was made though."

Both the girls were presented with a big box of goodies to chomp on — even Julie was presented with a box of Milk Tray.

The girls were so impressed they sent the Genie a letter thanking him for his magical efforts.

Meanwhile, little Jasmine Sheeley also wrote to the genie with her special wish — and he knew he couldn't refuse!

Jasmine, aged ten, wanted to dress up like the princess in the film *Aladdin*.

She wrote: "My name is Jasmine so I wish I could have a costume like the princess Jasmine in the film."

The genie worked some magic and soon conjured up a beautiful blue costume for

little Miss Sheeley, who lives in Mangotsfield, Bristol.

And she looked as pretty as a picture when she modelled the Arabian outfit.

Jasmine's proud mum Kate said: "She's been in bed with flu for a week so it was an ideal time to have a present like this to make her feel better."



YUM, YUM: Katie (right) and Abbie Davis

CHOCOS AWAY!



PRINCESS: Jasmine Sheeley

FILM FACTS

● ERIC Goldberg, the man who created the animated Genie, also created Thomson the Cat who was used to advertise a telephone directory in the eighties.

● SO far the film has won two Academy Awards, three Golden Globes and is the biggest animated film ever made.

● BRITISH maestro Tim Rice wrote the music score.

WATCH OUT FOR FREE TURKISH DELIGHT OFFER IN TOMORROW'S POST



MORE WISHES TOMORROW

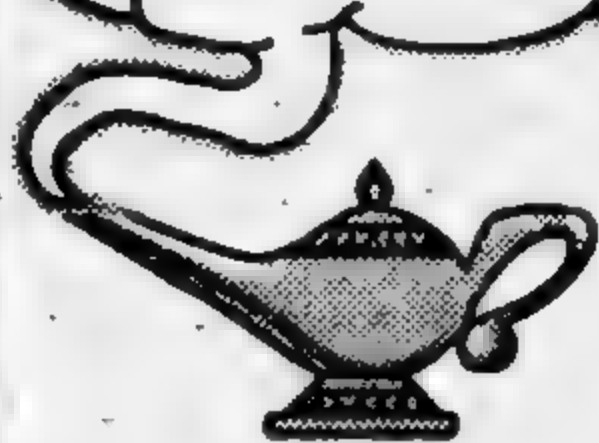
Aladdin Week

THE POST AND



MAKE YOUR WISHES COME TRUE

Today, our Genie whisks off a couple of song birds and makes their dream come true at the Bristol Hippodrome



IT was the moment they had dreamed of all their lives!

Starstruck Paula Cornick and Mark Harrington stood on

the stage of the Bristol Hippodrome and sang their hearts out.

Most of the 1,900 seats in the beautiful, city centre, theatre were empty.

But that didn't matter to Paula or Mark as they filled the auditorium with music.

They both wrote to the Evening Post genie with the same wish — to sing a solo in Bristol's most famous theatre.

Both are talented singers who have given pleasure to scores of people by performing in amateur and charity productions.

Paula, who lives in Kingswood, said in her letter: "I always dreamed of singing in the Hippodrome — and I don't mind if it's empty."

Mark, 36, from Downend, works as a hair-dresser, but his burning ambition is to be the singer with an old-time dance band.

He's a devoted fan of Hollywood star Judy Garland and collects her records and memorabilia.

"It's always been my wish to appear on the Hippodrome stage as a solo artist and to sing my favourite song *Over the Rainbow*," he wrote.

With the help of Hippodrome staff, the Evening Post arranged to make this double wish come true.

And to make sure Paula and Mark hit all the high notes, we found top pianist Julian Isaacs to accompany them on comedian Victoria Wood's piano (which happened to be on the stage at the time!)

Paula and Mark brought along some family and friends to cheer them on and give them some moral support on the big day.

After a quick run-through with Julian, Mark stepped into the spotlight and sang a magical tenor version of *Over the Rainbow*.

Buzz

Afterwards he said: "It was wonderful! I could imagine an audience out there and it gave me such a buzz."

His mum Elaine Peart said: "Watching Mark up there brought a lump to my throat. I'm very proud."

It was Paula's turn next. She sang the Beatle's hit *Yesterday* to the piano accompaniment, then stepped out on her own to

STARS: Paula and mark with pianist Julian Isaacs

WISHFUL SINGING

Stars of the stage

sing the Patsy Cline classic love song *Crazy*.

Her ten-year-old daughter Sarah, father Ronald Dance, and friends had come along to watch her and cheer.

Paula said she could hardly believe it was happening to her!

"Just to stand on this stage is something I've always wanted to do. I've sung with country and sixties bands but never anything like this," she said.

Paula comes from a very musical family. Her

brother is a professional singer, currently working in Norway, and her sister also sings.

And her father, Ronald Dance, used to have a music-hall double-act with his twin brother Bert.

"I was singing almost before I could talk," said Paula. "My father used to put me on the stage in the British Legion clubs and make me sing *Won't You Come Home Bill Bailey* when I was three years old."

Proud

Ronald, aged 74, watched his daughter proudly from the best seats in the Hippodrome stalls as she went through her paces.

And when she'd finished, he decided that he'd have a go too!

He proved that he'd lost none of his talent over the years when he sang a brilliant verse or two of the music hall favourite *You Made Me Care*.



FREE
TURKISH DELIGHT



YUMMY! Here's a delightful way to sample the flavour of Aladdin's mysterious East.

The Evening Post genie and his pals at Cadbury have come up with a special treat.

We've got 500 delicious bars of Fry's Turkish Delight to give away — **FREE!**

All you have to do claim your Turkish Delight is cut out this picture of the bar above and hand it in during business hours at the front counter of our offices in Temple Way, Bristol.

The offer is limited to ONE bar per person subject to availability. Photocopies are not accepted.

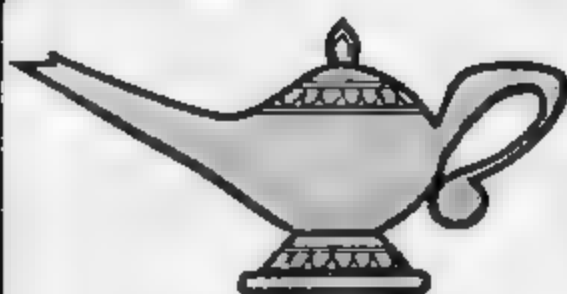
MORE WISHES TOMORROW

Aladdin Week

THE POST AND



MAKE YOUR WISHES COME TRUE



IT'S been a busy week for our man of the lamp. He's been dashing around Bristol helping

to add a little sparkle to people's lives.

Everywhere he went, a wish came true and nobody rubbed him up the wrong way.

Armed with a wad of notes and a cheery smile, he kept his eye out for people who looked like they might need a little magic help.

From the window of the chauffeur driven Genie-Mobile he spotted Shirley Grantham about to fill her car with petrol.

Shirley, from Westbury-on-Trym, was widowed earlier this year and she's just in the process of moving house.

Our man swooped from behind the petrol pumps to lend a hand filling up Shirley's little Peugeot 205.

He topped it to the brim and then coughed up the cash to pay the £16 for the fuel as well.

Gifts

Shirley, who retired from a printing business in June, was stunned by the gesture.

"Things like this just don't happen to you these days — I was absolutely amazed when he appeared.

"Usually people ask you for gifts in the street and don't give them to you."

She gave our man a hearty hug and thanked him for his kindness at the Esso Station in Whiteladies Road, Clifton.

"It's the best thing that has happened to me in ages. I'm just in the middle of moving home and it's all been such a rush," she added.

Beauty

Our genie billowed out of his lamp again to grant a wish for Reg King, who wanted to arrange a special surprise for wife Teresa.

She has been under a lot of stress recently and hasn't been feeling well.

So Reg came up with an idea that would make Teresa feel like a million dollars.

He wrote to the Evening Post

The Evening Post's Genie of the Lamp takes to the road today and pops up unexpectedly at a petrol station! Here's what happened...

Genie on forecourt!

genie saying: "Teresa would love an overall massage. She suffers from a bad back and legs and I haven't got the knack to do it."

The genie got on his magic carpet and zipped over to Coalpit Heath. That's where masseuse and beauty therapist Alison Maggs lives.

Prize

She treated Teresa AND Reg to a relaxing and therapeutic body massage, and gave Teresa a surprise present of some body lotion.

They both agreed it was just the treat they needed to put them on top of the world.

Tomorrow you can find out how the wish of the day became a dish of the day!

And we've got a great prize for young Aladdin fans. We've got 50 prize copies of a new Aladdin album and stickers.

Don't miss your Post — it's pure magic every day.



FOUR-STAR SERVICE: Our Genie appears at a petrol station and pays for Shirley's petrol

WIN ALADDIN MUSIC

LISTEN to this — we've got a musical offer for you today that's pure genie-us.

Aladdin, which opens today, is set to be a box office smash with its fun characters like the cheeky Abu, wicked Jafar and his squawking parrot Iago!

Its soundtrack has already won the movie



an Oscar in the U.S. Now here's a chance to hear it in your own home.

The Aladdin CD, released by Pickwick, costs £10.99 in the shops but we've got 20 as prizes in our fun competition.

All you have to do is identify which Aladdin character's silhouette we've pictured here.

Send your answers to Aladdin CD competition, PO Box 881, Evening Post, Temple Way, Bristol, BS99 7HH.

All entries must be received by Friday, December 10. The first 20 correct entries opened will win.

MORE WISHES TOMORROW

OUR GENIE MAKES A TASTY WISH COME TRUE

WOK A DISH

FREE ALADDIN STICKER ALBUMS

**Aladdin
Week
IN THE POST**



OUR genie was asked to cook up a really special treat for Malaysian cook Ah Lin Tang.

Her son Matthew, 13, wrote to the genie saying that his mum's greatest wish was to learn how to make the Chinese delicacy dim sum.

Ah Lin runs her own catering business from her home in Stoke Bishop, Bristol, and is a real whizz with the wok.

But the only thing she couldn't cook was the little steamed pastry parcels stuffed with savoury fillings.

The genie worked a little magic and soon conjured up a cookery lesson for Ah Lin, at one of Bristol's top restaurants, the China Palace in Baldwin Street.

And Matthew agreed the results were 'magic' when he was first to sample the dim sum.

"It was wonderful and I just can't thank the people at the China Palace enough," said Ah Lin.

"It's almost impossible to learn the art of cooking dim sum because the recipe and technique is a closely guarded secret in Singapore.



■ COOKING UP A TREAT: Ah Lin Tang with her son Matthew at the China Palace

GENIE-US AT WORK

HE'S got one of the fastest wits on screen and a barrage of jokes to match.

For Robin Williams there was always going to be life after playing a zany spaceman in *Mork and Mindy*.

And providing the voice of Aladdin's Genie was an inspired piece of 'casting'.

His friends describe him as Groucho Marx on drugs

— with a touch of Kenny Everett, Spike Milligan and Billy Connolly thrown in.

The 41-year-old son of a Detroit motor executive started his career as stand-up comic in San Francisco.

One of his closest friends was the late John Belushi, star of the *Blues Brothers*.

His big break came in

children's show *Mork and Mindy* with Pam Dawber. It's still being repeated 15 years after first being screened in the States.

Films like *The World According To Garp*, *Moscow On The Hudson* and *Popeye* followed but he's probably best known for another role which used his vocal talents to the full.

HERE'S a chance to get stuck into some more Aladdin magic in your Post.

We've rubbed our lamp to come up with 50 fantastic Panini sticker albums featuring beautiful colour pictures from Disney's *Aladdin*.

Each 32-page album has spaces for 230 stickers — each one containing a scene from the smash movie.

Youngsters can build up their collections into fully-illustrated versions of the *Aladdin* story.

Collections

We're giving away 50 of these super albums — each with 10 packs of stickers to get your collections started.

All you have to do is send a self-addressed postcard, or sealed envelope with your address on the back, to Aladdin stickers offer, PO Box 172, Evening Post, Temple Way, Bristol, BS99 7HN

Unfortunately we have only 50 albums available so they will go to the FIRST names we pull out of the bag.

The closing date for this offer is December 13.

FREE

Highlights from
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

PLUS
"The Phantom of the Opera"
Souvenir Program*



CANADIAN CAST
by KINSON
CAINE
by PRINCE



"The Phantom of the Opera" Music or Walt Disney's Aladdin Videotape.

Here's great news! You can get absolutely free from First Federal the Highlights from Andrew Lloyd Webber's **The Phantom of the Opera**, featuring the original Canadian cast...or Walt Disney's Aladdin.

The Phantom of the Opera on compact disc or cassette, or Walt Disney's Aladdin on videotape, is available free to anyone making a qualifying deposit of \$20,000 or more to any new or existing First Federal savings or new certificate account. However, if the qualifying deposit is made with a check drawn on funds from another financial institution, the deposit minimum can be as low as \$10,000.

Andrew Lloyd Webber's **The Phantom of the Opera** continues to captivate new audiences and will no doubt do the same in Hawaii this fall season. Now you can enjoy 70 minutes of music from **The Phantom of the Opera** as performed by the celebrated Canadian cast. And it's the Canadian National Touring Company Production that's performing in Honolulu this fall season. This CD or cassette is not available for sale in Hawaii except at the Blaisdell Concert Hall.

The smash-hit movie, Walt Disney's Aladdin, is the most popular animated film ever winning two Academy Awards. Now you can take home your free videotape and share the joy of Aladdin with your family.

Be sure to act now. Both offers are available for a limited time while supplies last. Certain conditions apply.

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or The Phantom
CD or Cassette

Other Qualifying Deposits and Certificate Renewals

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or More**

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or The Phantom
CD or Cassette

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\$19,000**

Aladdin
Videotape
\$7

**\$5,000-
\$9,999**

Aladdin
Videotape
\$12

*Available with "The Phantom of the Opera" offering.

The current Annual Percentage Yield (APY) for Statement Savings Accounts is 5.00% and for Statement Savings Accounts is 2.50%. Both Accounts have variable interest rates. The APY for the interest rate may change after the account is opened. You must maintain a minimum deposit of \$10,000 in the account to qualify for the APY. The APY for Certificate of Deposit (CD) Accounts are: 12 months 5.00%, 18 months 5.00%, 24 months 5.00%, 30 months 5.00%, 36 months 5.00%, 42 months 5.00%, 48 months 5.00%, 54 months 5.00%, 60 months 5.00%. You must keep the account open until the Maturity Date to receive the APY. All Accounts are subject to penalties for early withdrawal. Account fees could reduce the earnings on deposits. All Accounts are subject to change without notice. Transfers of funds between accounts and deposits, withdrawals, and automatic payments are not eligible for this promotion. Premiums are limited to one deposit within a 12-month period and may not exceed two per account within the same 12-month period.



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A Magical Genie Lights Up the Ice

ALADDIN. Walt Disney's World on Ice musical on skates, based on the animated Disney movie hit. Songs by Howard Ashman, Alan Mencken and Tim Rice. Story adaptation Jerry Bilik. Starring Jimmie Santee, Jaimee Eggleton, Cynthia Coull, David Browne, Christopher Shrimpling and the Tevlovski Teeterboard Act. Directed by Bilik, scenic design Robert Little, skating director / choreographer Bob Paul, lighting Jim Leitner, costumes Arthur Boccia. Nassau Coliseum Nov. 16-21; Meadowlands' Byrne Arena Nov. 23-28. Reviewed opening night, Nov. 4, at Madison Square Garden.

By Steve Parks

STAFF WRITER

ANYONE WHO was introduced to this ancient fable through the recent Disney cartoon blockbuster — which may include most of the planet's 12-and-under population — knows that the star of this show couldn't possibly be the Arab street urchin known as Aladdin.

And in case the movie left any doubt, Walt Disney's World on Ice production — with its multiple-personality grand finale — turns the Genie of Aladdin's magic lamp into one of the greatest show-stealers in history.

They're no fools at Disney. The Genie sells. You could hardly find an Aladdin figurine at the souvenir stands for all the Genie paraphernalia. And, as in the movie, it's the manic voice of Robin Williams that transforms the lamp lackey into a cosmic superstar.

Not that Aladdin is a slouch. Jaimee Eggleton, a member of the 1984 U.S. Olympic figure-skating team and star of the 1989 World on Ice version of "Peter Pan," infuses his latest boy-wonder role with exuberant charm and athleticism. But who can compete with a fantasy? A better question is, who could skate in that blue Genie get-up, with its muscle-bound torso and giant pointy-ear headgear? Jimmie Santee, that's who. And this Disney on Ice veteran skates the role with enough antic body language to make you think there's been a mistake in the program — that maybe Robin Williams has taken skating lessons.

Cynthia Coull as Jasmine is appropriately fiesty as the princess who refuses to be betrothed. She's also lithe and effortlessly graceful in her bare-midriff and pantaloons costumes. No wonder Aladdin is smitten. He stares shamelessly, counting her ribs, perhaps, each time she skates by. David Browne, as the villainous sorcerer Jafar, is a bit restricted with the sequined black cape and ever-present living chip on his shoulder. That would be Iago, the whiningly evil parrot. A mere prop, the bird is nevertheless an irrepressible pres-



'Aladdin's' Genie steals the show in Walt Disney's World on Ice.

ence as Gilbert Gottfried reprises his movie voiceover. (The voices were re-recorded especially for the Disney on Ice "Aladdin.") As Jasmine's dad, the Sultan, Christopher Shrimpling is amusingly rotund and wimpy.

Some of the many — too many — chase scenes in "Aladdin" are spiced by the acrobatics of the Tevlovski Teeterboard Act from the Moscow Circus on Ice. They help enliven a somewhat clumsy expository opening of "Aladdin." There are also some explosive special-effects in the good-guy/bad-guy confrontations, accompanied by nightmarishly monstrous manifestations of evil. Most kids appeared to take it all in unflinchingly.

But the show never really gets going until the first appearance of the Genie — along with a magic carpet who skates upright — half-way through the first act. The Genie's grand entrance shakes the toddlers in the audience out of their restlessness with a gaudy and good-humored rendition of the showstopper song ("you never had") "A Friend Like Me." Among the second act highlights is the magic carpet ride, which actually does fly high over the ice during the schmaltzy romantic duet, "A Whole New World." While "Aladdin" has more flaws than last year's ice-ballet masterpiece from Disney, "Beauty and the Beast," it brought the kids to their feet, waving to their unforgettable friend, the Genie. ■



The magic of Disney: Aladdin and the genie Copyright C.DISNEY.

Win tickets for Aladdin

The *Birmingham Post*, in association with Walt Disney Pictures, Buena Vista International and Showcase Cinemas, proudly presents an exclusive screening of the most exciting film of the year — Walt Disney Pictures' *Aladdin*.

This special morning screening is open solely to *Birmingham Post* readers and their families and gives you the chance to experience the magic of Disney without the worry of pre-booking and queueing.

Weaving a colourful tapestry of magic, music, adventure, romance and outrageous humour, the Disney animation team tackles one of the greatest stories ever told to create their own uniquely entertaining version of the classic Arabian Nights fairy tale.

For nearly three centuries, the world's best storytellers have spun tales of a young boy and his magical encounter with a "wish-full" Genie and an evil, power-hungry vizier, but only through the art of animation can this story be so imaginatively told.

Under the direction of Disney veterans John Musker and Ron Clements — the acclaimed writing/directing team responsible for Disney's 1989 animated tri-



umph, *The Little Mermaid* — more than 600 animators, artists and technicians contributed their talents to *Aladdin*. With five new songs and an original score by multiple Academy Award-winning composer Alan Menken, and lyrics by his Oscar-winning partner, the late Howard Ashman, and Tony Award winner Tim Rice, *Aladdin* is sure to leave moviegoers with a song in their hearts.

Set against the exotic backdrop of the mythical Arabian kingdom Agrabah, *Aladdin* follows the rags-to-riches adventures of a resourceful youth, a "diamond-in-the-rough", who dreams of escaping his street-life existence and marrying the Sultan's beautiful daughter, Princess Jasmine.

Fate intervenes when Aladdin is recruited by the Sultan's scheming vizier, Jafar, to help retrieve a magic lamp from

deep within the Cave of Wonders.

The boy ends up with the lamp, its wisecracking resident Genie and the three wishes that come with him. But he also acquires a powerful foe in Jafar. Posing as a rich and handsome prince, Aladdin fails to impress the Princess and discovers that it is his true self that she was interested in all along.

With the aid of his Genie pal, his pet monkey Abu and a magic carpet, Aladdin sets out to prove himself worthy by saving the kingdom from Jafar's evil plot and becoming the master of his own fate.

The story of *Aladdin and the Enchanted Lamp* is regarded as part of the *The Thousand and One Nights*, or *Arabian Nights*, a collection of folk tales derived from the Indian, Persian and Arab cultures with origins dating back to 850 AD.

In visualising the story of *Aladdin* for animation, the film-makers experimented with new approaches to character design, style, form and colour.

A creative team helped to set the tone from the earliest stages of development and continued throughout the production to ensure a unity of production that has seldom been achieved

before. And now is your chance to experience the magic of *Aladdin*. Showcase Cinemas in Erdington has given *The Birmingham Post* an exclusive screening.

To be among the privileged 300 attending all you have to do is answer the following question:

What is the name of Aladdin's pet monkey?

Write your answer, along with your name, address and daytime telephone number, on a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope and send, before the closing date of Monday, November 26, to:

Aladdin Competition, Birmingham Post, Competitions Department, PO Box 30, Birmingham B6 4BA.

The first three correct entries drawn from the hat after the closing date will each receive a special family ticket — valid for four people — to an exclusive *Birmingham Post* screening of *Aladdin* at the Showcase Cinema, Erdington, on Saturday, December 4, plus a CD soundtrack of the film.

The next 75 correct entries will each receive a family ticket for four people to the exclusive screening on December 4.

Usual *Birmingham Post* competition rules apply.



SHOW-STEALER:
Robin Williams was surprised by Aladdin's success but with a fixed-fee contract he missed out on a cash bonanza

The genie (and behind Aladdin)

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How Rice and Williams work a little bit of Disney magic

By RACHEL SIMPSON

WALT DISNEY'S back in the business of making magic. The studio did it with Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs in 1937, and repeated it with The Jungle Book in 1967. These are — or rather were — Disney's most, and second most, popular films. But now the records have been broken by its latest animated feature... Aladdin.

The film has been a hit in the States, where box-office receipts top £200 million. And it's now set to open across the UK on December 3.

Aladdin has garnered a clutch of awards, including three Golden Globes, and two Oscars. There was also a special achievement award for Robin Williams, star of Good Morning Vietnam.

Williams steals the show with a display of vocal pyrotechnics as the Genie. One minute he is an amiable DJ or television game-show host, the next he's Robert De Niro or Jack Nicholson.

As Williams' voice changes, so does his shape, metamorphosing from puff of smoke, to little blue bee, to a Busby Berkeley cavalcade of pint-sized genies.

The success of Aladdin has surprised Williams who — so Hollywood gossip has it — did the work for a fixed fee instead of asking for a slice of the profits. But he was later upset to discover how high the profits were.

As a goodwill gesture, Disney boss Jeffrey Katzenberg bought Williams a Picasso, — and sent it to his house.

Williams isn't the only person being honoured. English lyricist Tim Rice, who with composer Alan Menken wrote the title song, Whole New World, picked up a Golden Globe and an Oscar this year for his contributions.

IF YOU go to the large house in south-west London the 49-year-old millionaire has just moved into, you find him pleased, if unsurprised, by the fuss the film is creating. "It seems rather odd to me," he says with a grin. "I wrote the songs for Aladdin three years ago, the film has been out in the States for a year, and I won the Oscar earlier this year."

"But in this country, it's only now that people are starting to get interested."

Rice's work on Aladdin happened by accident. Best known for writing Joseph, Jesus Christ Superstar, and Evita with Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber, he was asked to write the lyrics for another Disney cartoon, The Lion King.

"I had barely got going on that," he says. "When they asked me to step in on

Aladdin, because the original lyricist, Howard Ashman, died. It was a bit difficult at first, learning how to write the songs for an animated film, but I had a lot of help from composer Alan Menken, who has a mere six Oscars!"

The lyrics Rice contributed include Whole New World, and a patter song for Aladdin called One Jump Ahead, full of Cole Porter-style rhymes such as, "Now I'm throwing my hand in/Wish me a happy landing."

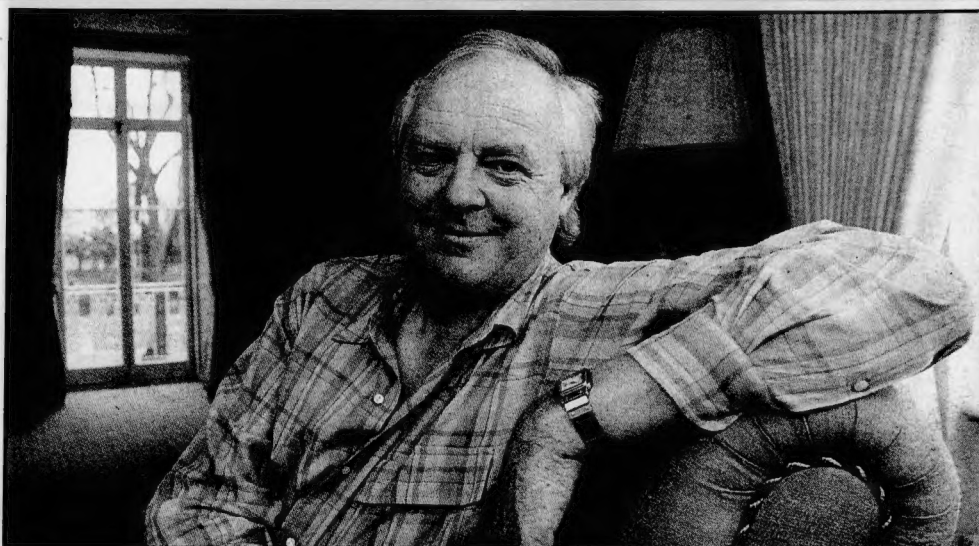
The resulting Oscar isn't just good news for Aladdin, it's good news for Rice. It's something he has that Sir Andrew, for all his successes, does not.

It also marks an acknowledgment that Rice has finally emerged from Lloyd Webber's shadow. "Yes, there's no doubt

AWARD WINNER: The genie-in-

ime time (d genius) Aladdin

POLISHED:
Lyricist
Tim Rice
achieved
his most
coveted
accolade
with his
Oscar for
Aladdin



Princess Jasmine and Rajah her feline friend



Jasmine realises she has fallen for Aladdin



The lovers take flight on a magic carpet ride

inspired cartoon which collected three Golden Globes and two Oscars has rejuvenated the Walt Disney empire

about that," he says. "And I'm particularly pleased to have the Oscar for that reason. People don't know you're working unless you get the publicity."

"Sometimes my work is intangible. I'm doing research, going into meetings to get a project going, sometimes I can do several months' work and have nothing to show for it."

Tim denies that he and Lloyd Webber parted acrimoniously, as everyone believes.

He says they split because they were worried that after a string of hits, they would produce a flop.

But they do still communicate. Rice has said publicly: "There are no other British composers of musicals in Andrew's league." Sir Andrew,

for his part, wrote to congratulate Rice when he won the Golden Globe award.

Have they spoken since the Oscar?

"I don't think we have," says Rice thoughtfully. "I haven't seen much of him in the last three or four months. No, don't say that, he has been busy with Sunset Boulevard."

Rice is at a new stage in his life. His marriage to his wife Jane is over — though ask him if their divorce has been finalised, and you get a very vague response.

It has been a civilised separation during which the two have seen each other regularly, and taken their two children — 16-year-old Donald and University student Eva — on holiday.

Meanwhile, his long affair with petite singer Elaine Paige is also at an end, though the two are still good friends.

"I want to see her new show (about Edith Piaf) before long," he says. Now there is no woman in his life. "I've given them up," he jokes, revealing that he is busy, writing lyrics for Cliff Richard, and finishing his collaboration with Elton John on The Lion King, to be released next summer.

After his Oscar, Rice has few unfulfilled ambitions.

"I'd like to see my children do all right," he says. "I wouldn't discourage Donald if he came to me and said he wanted to write words for music. Though I would be a bit worried that he might be better than me."

£125 TICKETS CAN BE YOURS

WE are giving away two top-price tickets, worth £125 each, for the celebrity premiere of Aladdin. It takes place on Thursday, November 18, at the Odeon, Leicester Square in London. The film is preceded by a show with live characters from Disney films, and followed by a fireworks display in the Square. Then it's off to the Waldorf Hotel for a party where the champagne will flow. Proceeds from the evening are going to the Variety Club of Great Britain and The Hospital for Sick Children,

Great Ormond Street. For a chance to win, answer this question: Which 1967 Disney film, based on Rudyard Kipling's stories, was re-released earlier this year? Send your answer, with your name and address, on a postcard to Aladdin Competition, Daily Express, PO Box 59, Romford, Essex RM1 3DE. Closing date: Friday, November 12, 1993. Usual Express rules apply. Tickets are on sale from the Aladdin Premiere office on 071-605 2822. Prices start from £25.